from the dramatic poets, — and apparently of the author's own selection. A little more minuteness in unfolding the doctrine of the modes would perhaps have been desirable.

There are a few things, which we hope Mr. Sophocles will alter in a second edition. On page 2, instead of the sneer at "some modern philologists, who imagine they discover the digamma at the beginning of almost every Homeric word beginning with a vowel," it would have been well, to give a list of those few words, which nearly all sober scholars of any eminence unite in regarding, as having originally been sounded with the digamma in the Homeric dialect. On page 35, the author says, "It is not necessary to manufacture γυναιξ for the sake of γυναικός." We wish that he had explained what other form in the nominative is presupposed by the existing oblique cases, rather than this, which he condemns and Buttmann favors. On page 47, it would have been desirable to state, what adjectives in -ος are of two endings; and what license the poets allow themselves herein. Under the verb, the first person of the plural in the active uniformly appears in the dual also. We like the old plan better of giving no first person dual, and of explaining the subject in the syntax. We regret also, that in the paradigms the dual follows the plural; not, indeed, on account of any principle involved in the position of the two numbers, but because Mr. Sophocles thus opposes the prejudices of teachers in favor of the old jingle, which they have heard in their boyhood.

On the whole we heartily recommend this Grammar, as likely to make thorough and intelligent Greek scholars, and, indeed, to bring about a new era in the acquisition of this language.

---

6. — *An Elementary Treatise on Astronomy, in Four Parts, containing a Systematic and Comprehensive Exposition of the Theory, and the more important Practical Problems, with Solar, Lunar, and other Astronomical Tables. Designed for Use as a Text-Book in Colleges and Academies.* By WILLIAM A. NORTON, late Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy in the University of the City of New York. New York: Wiley & Putnam. 8vo. pp. 485.

THIS treatise is well adapted to the student who wishes to acquire a thorough knowledge of Practical Astronomy; who would not be contented with a merely popular work, and yet

has not the mathematical ability to master the more profound calculations required for the full developement of the mechanism of the heavens. He will here find a clear and well-digested view of the methods of determining the motions and places of the sun, the moon, and the other heavenly bodies, their eclipses and occultations, the construction of astronomical tables and the measurement of time, together with some useful astronomical tables uncommonly well arranged ; so that, if he have any taste for numerical calculation, he will be abundantly supplied with good materials, and, if he should desire to predict an eclipse or to calculate an almanac, he could not readily be referred to a more satisfactory source of information. He will also find a somewhat novel and lucid "exposition of the operations of the disturbing forces in producing the perturbations of the motions of the solar system," sufficiently accurate and comprehensive, perhaps, for the ordinary purposes of instruction. A great defect of the volume consists, however, in the meagreness of its details with regard to the natural history of the heavenly bodies. A single page, illustrated by no diagrams, is all that is allotted to the physical constitution of the moon ; and in direct contradiction to the delicate observations of Schröter, without any allusion to them, this body is declared to have no atmosphere. The variable stars and nebulæ are hastily passed over in an uninteresting description, and no notice is taken of the sublime speculations to which they have led the minds of philosophers. But such defects as these do not render the work of less value for the practical purposes for which it was evidently designed, and for which it may be recommended as an excellent text-book.

---

7. — *An Elementary Treatise on Optics, designed for the Use of the Cadets of the United States' Military Academy*, by William H. C. Bartlett, A. M., Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy in the Academy. New York : Wiley & Putnam. 1839. 8vo. pp. 231.

The science of Optics is not to be confounded with the Natural Philosophy of Light. In the latter department of science the nature of light is the especial object of investigation, and a prominent place is given to the discussion of the two theories of emission and of waves. All the phenomena of observation are carefully scrutinized in reference to their